

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 KINGST 02851 221825Z

61

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 AGR-20 EB-11 COME-00 AID-20 SS-15 NSC-10

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 L-03 H-03 CIEP-02

OPIC-12 TRSE-00 OMB-01 PA-03 PRS-01 USIA-15 RSR-01

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R 221750Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2716

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN, CPRS, JM

SUBJ: ROW ERRUPTS BETWEEN ROSE HALL DEVELOPMENTS LIMITED AND  
MINISTER OF HOUSING SPAULDING

1. JAMAICAN MINISTER OF HOUSING ANTHONY SPAULDING, (AFTER PRIME MINISTER MANLEY PROBABLY THE BEST MAN KNOWN IN JAMAICA AS THE CHAMPION OF THE LITTLE GUY) HAS ACCUSED ROSE HALL DEVELOPMENTS LTD, A JAMAICAN INVESTMENT BY AMERICAN ENTREPRENEUR JOHN ROLLINS, OF "RAPACIOUS EXPLOITATION OF THE SUFFERING ELEMENT." WITH CUSTOMARY VERVE, SPAULDING PROMISED TO STOP A LAND CLEARANCE PROGRAM BY THE COMPANY WHICH IS DISPLACING A SMALL COMMUNITY ON ROSE HALL LAND.

2. BEGINNING IN EARLY AUGUST, RESIDENTS OF WEBLEY BARRACKS, ROSE HALL ESTATES, BEGAN COMPLAINING THAT THEIR HOMES AND FIELDS WERE BEING RAZED BY THE COMPANY WITHOUT NEW ONES BEING PROVIDED FOR THEM. THE AREA IS TO BE DEVELOPED FOR RESORT HOMES AS PART OF THE ROSE HALL DEVELOPMENT. THE COMPANY ALLEGEDLY PROMISED TO MAKE LAND AVAILABLE TO DISPLACED RESIDENTS, BUT THE SITE CHOSEN APPARENTLY DOES NOT MEET WITH THEIR APPROVAL.

3. SPAULDING VISITED WEBLEY BARRACKS ON AUG 15 TO SEE THE AREA

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PAGE 02 KINGST 02851 221825Z

AND MEET WITH THE COMPLAINANTS. HE ANNOUNCED THAT UNDER A MINI-

STERIAL EDICT (BELIEVED TO BE A FORM OF EMINENT DOMAIN) HE WOULD BE DECLARING SOME AREAS OCCUPIED BY PENSIONERS AND OTHERS WORKING AT ROSE HALL AS SLUM CLEARANCE AND IMPROVEMENT AREAS. THIS COULD PAVE THE WAY FOR EVENTUAL REDEVELOPMENT OF THE SITE BY THE GOVERNMENT. SPAULDING CALLED FOR AN IMMEDIATE END TO THE BULLDOZING BY THE COMPANY AND SAID THAT HE WOULD SUMMON JOHN ROLLINGS AND ROSE HALL'S MANAGING DIRECTOR TO AN EARLY MEETING WITH HIMSELF AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICERS TO DISCUSS THE PROJECT.

4. SPAULDING LEFT JAMAICA FOR NEW YORK ON AUG 20 AND IS SCHEDULED TO RETURN AUG 22 AFTER WHICH HE MAY PICK UP THE ISSUE AGAIN.

5. COMMENT: JOHN ROLLINS IS ONE OF A TRIUMVIRATE OF AMERICAN INVESTORS, INCLUDING EX-TREASURY SECRETARY JOHN CONNALLY, WHICH HAS CONCLUDED AN AGREEMENT WITH THE GOJ TO ESTABLISH AN 11,000 ACRE CATTLE RANCH, FEEDLOT AND ABBATTOIR IN WESTERN JAMAICA. SINCE SPAULDING HAS DESCRIBED ARRANGEMENTS CONCLUDED BY THE PREVIOUS JLP GOVERNMENT WITH THE ROLLINS INTERESTS AS A SELLOUT WHICH DID NOT TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE HUMAN ELEMENT AND GENERAL INTEREST OF THE COUNTRY, LACK OF AN AMICABLE SETTLEMENT AT ROSE HALL MAY INDICATE TROUBLE FOR THE BEEF PROJECT.

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